

Remarks

Responsive to the Requirement for Election, Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I, Claims 1-36, drawn to a process for the production of a composition, classified in class 502, subclass 104+, but respectfully request reconsideration of the Requirement for Restriction for the reasons given below.

Non-elected Group II, Claims 37-56, classified in class 208, subclass 208R, drawn to a process for the removal of sulfur from a hydrocarbon stream using a composition is retained in this case pending reconsideration of the Requirement for Restriction.

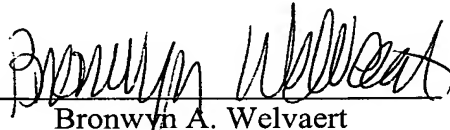
The Requirement for Restriction is respectfully traversed. The Requirement for Restriction is based, at least in part, on grounds that the invention(s), as set forth in the Office Action, are distinct and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by the cited classifications, and that the fields of search are not the same. Both art classes referred to in the Office Action properly would be searched even if the Group II claims did not exist. Claims 37-56 claim a process that utilizes a composition produced by the Group I claims.

The claims of Group I, drawn to a process for the production of a composition, and Group II, drawn to a sulfur removal process using the composition of Group I, are sufficiently closely related in this application to be allowable in a single application. Both groups of claims clearly relate to desulfurization. Furthermore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to examine MPEP 803, second paragraph, which encourages combination, such as the combination of Group I and Group II claims in this application.

The claims are so closely related in substance as to render reasonable
the withdrawal of the Requirement for Restriction.

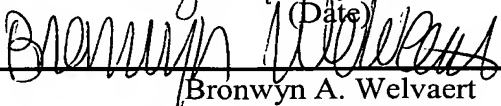
Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on	
<u>24 August 2005</u>	(Date)
<u></u>	Bronwyn A. Weldaert